

## LAST MINUTE MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** January 7, 2004

**TO:** MEMBERS, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**FROM:** Judy Pinegar, Administrator  
California Department of Education Waiver Office

**RE:** Item No. W-1

**SUBJECT:** Request by Santa Cruz City Schools to waive Education Code (EC) Section 51224.5, regarding completion of a course in Algebra I as a part of the graduation requirement so that 6% of graduating seniors of 2004 may get a diploma.

Requests made under the general waiver authority (of Education Code section 33050) are reviewed and acted upon by the State Board of Education (State Board) on a case-by-case basis and no decision on a particular waiver establishes a precedent for other waivers.

California Department of Education recommends: Approval with conditions as follows:

1. All seniors (Class of 2004) who have not completed Algebra I will be enrolled (or remain enrolled) and will be encouraged to complete the course during the spring semester of 2004.
2. All students (and their parents/guardians) in the Class of 2005 who have not completed Algebra I will be:
  - Advised immediately of the Algebra I completion requirement; and
  - Receive counseling in selecting summer school classes in 2004 and regular classes in 2004-05 to ensure that they enroll in and complete Algebra I.
3. SCCS specifically acknowledges that the State Board does not intend to waive the Algebra I requirement for any SCCS student in the Class of 2005.
4. On Friday, April 2, 2004, SCCS agrees to provide a status report on all of its students in the Class of 2004 and the Class of 2005 who have not completed Algebra I, and the efforts being made to facilitate their completion of the course.
5. On or before Friday, April 30, 2004, the Executive Director of the State Board will determine whether the conditions have been met (or that processes are in place to ensure that the conditions will be met) as appropriate. If the Executive Director determines that the conditions have been (or will be) met, this waiver is operative. If the Executive Director determines that the conditions have not been (or will not be) met, this waiver is denied pursuant to the reasons justifying denial as set forth in Education Code sections 33051(a)(1) – the educational needs of pupils are not met – and (4) – pupil protections are jeopardized.